

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [1021] with the following amended paragraph:

[1021] Memory 208 comprises one or more electronic memory components, such as ROM, RAM, EEPROM, flash memory, or the like, for storing information pertinent for having asset 106 making itself apparent. For example, memory 208 may store executable computer instructions (i.e., a computer program) for use by processor 204, for transmitting ~~apparent~~ requests and/or for determining which type of ~~appetency~~ apparency action to be taken by asset 106. Memory 208 may be considered a signal-bearing medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus (i.e., processor 204) to perform a method for making asset 106 apparent. Such a program may comprise, for example, a program operating within a cell phone environment, such as the popular Binary Run-Time Environment (BREW[®]) operating system by QUALCOMM or the JAVA run-time environment by Sun Microsystems.

Please replace paragraph [1025] with the following amended paragraph:

[1025] In another embodiment, the request comprises a command that dictates how asset 106 is to respond to the request to make itself apparent. For example, asset 106 may have the capability to make itself apparent to an individual by sounding a horn and lighting its headlights. The request may then request asset 106 to light its headlights if it is in a dark area. In this embodiment, the individual uses input device 202 to enter his or her preferred method of having asset 106 make itself apparent. The resulting request from processor 204 comprises the individual's preferred method of making asset 106 apparent. In a slight alteration of this embodiment, asset 106 may be able to perform multiple ways of making itself apparent, but if the individual fails to specify a preferred method of ~~appetency~~ apparency, a default ~~appetency~~ apparency method is used. Alternatively, rather than using a default method of ~~appetency~~ apparency, asset 106 determines which of several alternative methods of ~~appetency~~ apparency might get the attention of the requesting individual the best, considering factors such as the types of ~~appetency~~ apparency mechanisms available to asset 106, the amount of light available in the vicinity of asset 106, the distance that the requesting individual is from asset 106 (in this embodiment, WCD 100 comprises a position detector 206, such as a GPS receiver or other circuitry, for determining a location of WCD 100 and the request comprises at the position of WCD 100 (or, alternatively, information that would allow an entity such as CPF 104 or wireless communication system 102 to determine the position of WCD 100), the battery capacity available to become apparent, etc.

Please replace paragraph [1030] with the following amended paragraph:

[1030] In another embodiment, central processing facility 104 is used to authenticate WCD 100 and/or the individual operating WCD 100 and/or to otherwise process ~~appetency~~ apparency requests as well as responses from WCD 106. For instance, in one embodiment, an individual enters an identification code into WCD 100 identifying asset 106 that is to be located. Processor 204 receives the request and the identification code and sends a request to CPF 104 to make asset 106 apparent. The request generally comprises the identification code corresponding to asset 106. CPF 104 receives the request and identification code and may initially authenticate WCD 100 and/or the individual operating WCD 100. This may be accomplished by identifying a particular code corresponding to WCD 100, such as an electronic serial number (ESN) or mobile identification number (MIN), or it may be accomplished by examining a code supplied by the requesting individual, such as a username and password, a social security number, or other alpha-numeric code which gives the individual permission to make asset ~~appetency~~ apparency requests, and comparing the code to a list of permissible codes stored at CPF 104. If a match is found, the request from WCD 100 is allowed to progress. If a match is not found, CPF 104 may transmit a message to WCD 100 informing the individual that the request failed.

Please replace paragraph [1033] with the following amended paragraph:

[1033] In an embodiment where the request from WCD 100 comprises a selected ~~appetency~~ apparency action, the selected action may be compared to actions that asset 106 is capable of performing. Such capability or capabilities may be stored in the database associated with CPF 104. If asset 106 is capable of performing the selected action, a message is transmitted to asset 106 requesting that asset 106 initiate the selected action. The message may be routed through wireless communication system 102 or through alternative communication system 108. If asset 106 is not able to perform the requested ~~appetency~~ apparency action, a message may be transmitted back to WCD 100, informing it of this information. The individual associated with WCD 100 may then attempt to have asset 106 make itself apparent by selecting a different ~~appetency~~ apparency action, and transmitting this second request to CPF 104. The second selected ~~appetency~~ apparency action is again compared to the information in the database to determine if asset 106 is able to perform the second selected action, and so on.

Please replace paragraph [1035] with the following amended paragraph:

[1035] Apparatus 300 comprises at least transceiver 302, processor 304, interface 306 and memory 308. Optionally, input/output (I/O) 310 is included as well. Transceiver 302 is used to receive ~~appetency~~ apparency requests and for transmitting information to a requesting WCD 100. Transceiver 302 may comprise any type of wireless communication transceiver, such as RF, cellular, satellite, digital, or other wireless communication device. The term “transceiver”, as used herein, refers generally to both a transmitter and a receiver.

Please replace paragraph [1037] with the following amended paragraph:

[1037] Memory 308 comprises one or more electronic memory components, such as ROM, RAM, EEPROM, flash memory, or the like, for storing information pertinent for having asset 106 making itself apparent. For example, memory 308 may store executable computer instructions (i.e., a computer program) for use by processor 304, for responding to ~~appetency~~ apparency requests from WCD 100 and for initiating one or more ~~appetency~~ apparency actions based on received requests.

Please replace paragraph [1040] with the following amended paragraph:

[1040] In one embodiment, transceiver 302 receives a message directly from WCD 100, requesting that asset 106 make itself apparent. In this embodiment, transceiver 302 receives an ~~appetency~~ apparency request and provides the request to processor 304. In one embodiment, processor 304 determines what type of ~~appetency~~ apparency action to perform. For example, if asset 106 is capable of performing multiple ~~appetency~~ apparency actions, such as illuminating one or more lights or sounding an audible alert, processor 304 decides which of these two ~~appetency~~ apparency actions to implement. In an embodiment where WCD 100 provides its location along with the ~~appetency~~ apparency request, processor 304 may determine how far away WCD 100 is from asset 106 using position sensor 312. Position sensor 312 typically comprises a GPS receiver, or the like, for determining a location of asset 106. Processor 304 compares the location of WCD 100 to the location of asset 106, and determines a relative distance between the two. If the relative distance is less than a predetermined distance, processor 304 may send a command through interface 306 instructing asset 106 to sound an audible alert, such as sounding a horn located on asset 106. If the relative distance between WCD 100 and asset 106 is greater than the predetermined distance, then processor 304 may alternatively send a command through interface 306 to illuminate one or more lights located on asset 106.

Please replace paragraph [1041] with the following amended paragraph:

[1041] In another example, processor 304 may determine the time of day to determine which ~~appetency~~ apparency action to perform. Processor 304 may determine the current time by receiving information from a discreet timer, such as timer 314, from a timing signal provided by position sensor 312, or by any other means known in the art. If processor 304 determines that the current time coincides with daylight hours, for example if the current time is between 7am and 5pm, processor 304 may choose to sound an audible alert, rather than illuminating lights, to make asset 106 apparent. Similarly, if the current time falls within night time hours, processor 304 may choose to illuminate one or more lights, rather than sound an audible alert, for making asset 106 apparent.

Please replace paragraph [1042] with the following amended paragraph:

[1042] Processor 304 may take other factors into consideration for choosing which ~~appetency~~ apparency action to perform. For example, processor 304 may receive information pertaining to asset 106 through interface 306, such as a condition of an on-board battery (i.e., fully charged, low charge, etc), the position of a mechanical feature of asset 106 (such as the position of a bulldozer blade, a position of a fork belonging to a forklift, etc), and other types of input. If, for example, the battery condition is low, processor 304 may choose to make asset 106 apparent using the least amount of energy possible. The most energy efficient method of making asset 106 apparent could be predetermined and stored within memory 308.

Please replace paragraph [1043] with the following amended paragraph:

[1043] Finally, processor 304 may decide which method of asset ~~appetency~~ apparency to perform based on a combination of the just-discussed possibilities.

Please replace paragraph [1044] with the following amended paragraph:

[1044] In another embodiment, rather than unilaterally deciding which ~~appetency~~ apparency action to perform, processor 304 may transmit a list of potential ~~appetency~~ apparency actions back to WCD 100 upon receipt of an ~~appetency~~ apparency request. The individual associated with WCD 100 would then choose which action is desired to make asset 106 apparent. The individual enters the selected action into WCD 100 using input device 202, then processor 204 generates a message which includes the selected ~~appetency~~ apparency action. The message is then transmitted directly to WCD 100 using transceiver 200. Apparatus 300

receives the message via transceiver 302 and provides the message to processor 304. Processor 304 then sends a command through interface 306, instructing asset 106 to perform the selected ~~appetency~~ apparency action

Please replace paragraph [1047] with the following amended paragraph:

[1047] Whether the individual explicitly informs apparatus 300 of a successful asset location by using I/O device 310 or implicitly by operating asset 106, processor 304 receives this information and, in one embodiment, cancels the ~~appetency~~ apparency action by sending a command through interface 306, instructing asset 106 to discontinue the ~~appetency~~ apparency action. In another embodiment, processor 304, alternatively or in addition to canceling the ~~appetency~~ apparency, generates a message for transmission to CPF 104, informing CPF 104 that the requesting individual has located asset 106. CPF 104 may then update its database to reflect the date, time, location, and an identification of WCD 100 and/or the requesting individual (or an identification code associated with the requesting individual), or a combination of these items.

Please replace paragraph [1052] with the following amended paragraph:

[1052] If apparatus 300 receives a signal or message indicated that the individual has not located asset 106 by the time the predetermined amount of time has expired, processor 304 may initiate a second ~~appetency~~ apparency action different than the original ~~appetency~~ apparency action. Alternatively, or in addition, processor 304 may generate a message for transmission to CPF 104 indicating that the individual has not located asset 106, and may further send a command through interface 306 which cancels the original ~~appetency~~ apparency action. It should be understood that the original action may be cancelled while the second ~~appetency~~ apparency action is in progress.

Please replace paragraph [1055] with the following amended paragraph:

[1055] In step 404, WCD 100 optionally determines its position for embodiments where the position of WCD 100 is used to determine the type of ~~appetency~~ apparency action to be taken, or in embodiments where the location of WCD 100 is recorded for informational purposes.

Please replace paragraph [1056] with the following amended paragraph:

[1056] In step 406, WCD 100 optionally determines the current time of day. The time of day is used in embodiments where WCD 100 determines which type of ~~appetency~~ apparency action asset 106 should perform based on whether the current time indicates daylight or darkness.

Please replace paragraph [1057] with the following amended paragraph:

[1057] In step 408, the individual operating WCD 100 optionally enters a selected method of asset ~~appetency~~ apparency into WCD 100. This step is performed in embodiments where the individual determines which type of action for asset 106 to take, or it is performed in embodiments where the ~~appetency~~ apparency action is negotiated between asset 106 and WCD 100.

Please replace paragraph [1058] with the following amended paragraph:

[1058] In step 410, processor 204 generates a request to make asset 106 apparent. The request may comprise an instruction to make asset 106 apparent, the identification code supplied in step 402, the current location of WCD 100 as determined in step 404, the current time of day as determined in step 406, a selected method of asset ~~appetency~~ apparency as determined in step 408, or any combination of the aforementioned items.

Please replace paragraph [1063] with the following amended paragraph:

[1063] In step 502, processor 304 unilaterally determines which type of ~~appetency~~ apparency action to perform, in an embodiment where the ~~appetency~~ apparency request does not specify which type of ~~appetency~~ apparency action to perform. Processor 304 may use the current time of day, a location of WCD 100, a location of asset 106, a condition of one or more parameters of asset 106 (such as battery charge, the position of one or more mechanical features of asset 106, etc.), or a combination of these factors in determining which type of ~~appetency~~ apparency action to perform.

Please replace paragraph [1064] with the following amended paragraph:

[1064] In step 504, processor 304 determines which type of ~~appetency~~ apparency action to perform, in an embodiment where the ~~appetency~~ apparency request does not specify which type of ~~appetency~~ apparency action to perform and where asset 106 is only capable of

performing a single type of ~~appetency~~ apparency action. For example, asset 106 may only have external lights, and no other means for making itself apparent to a requesting individual.

Please replace paragraph [1065] with the following amended paragraph:

[1065] In step 506, a negotiation is performed between apparatus 300 and either WCD 100, or CPF 104, as the case may be, in embodiments where a negotiated ~~appetency~~ apparency action is possible. The negotiation process is described in detail above.

Please replace paragraph [1066] with the following amended paragraph:

[1066] In step 508, processor 304 receives a selected ~~appetency~~ apparency action in the ~~appetency~~ apparency request, in an embodiment where the requesting individual chooses a selected ~~appetency~~ apparency action for asset 106 to perform.

Please replace paragraph [1067] with the following amended paragraph:

[1067] Regardless of which embodiment is used to select the ~~appetency~~ apparency action(s), in step 510, processor 304 sends a command through interface 306, instructing asset 106 to perform the selected ~~appetency~~ apparency action(s).

Please replace paragraph [1068] with the following amended paragraph:

[1068] In step 512, processor 304 optionally determines whether the requesting individual has located asset 106 within a predetermined amount of time. If the requesting individual has located asset 106 within the predetermined amount of time, one or more actions may be taken by apparatus 300, such as canceling the ~~appetency~~ apparency action(s), transmitting a message to CPF 104 indicating a successful location, or transmitting a similar message to WCD 100. This is shown as step 514.

Please replace paragraph [1069] with the following amended paragraph:

[1069] If the requesting individual has not located asset 106 within the predetermined amount of time, apparatus 300 may take one or more actions, such as sending a message to WCD 100 asking it to re-confirm the original request for asset ~~appetency~~ apparency, sending a message to CPF 104 informing it that the requesting individual has not located asset 106, or instructing asset 106 to perform a second type of ~~appetency~~ apparency action.